

University of Kentucky
Inter-Office Exchange

Date 10/13/78

Memo to Stan Turner from Vincent Davis

TAKE ACTION INDICATED
NOT LATER THAN

SUBJECT {

☒ SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

Return to me ()

See me personally ()

Need not be returned ()

Being sent for your
information ☒

Furnish data requested ... ()

Take action indicated ()

Take up with ()

Investigate and report to . ()

Express your judgment ... ()

Set time when we may
discuss this ()

()

VINCENT DAVIS
Director and Patterson Professor
PATTERSON SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY
AND INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE
PATTERSON TOWER, SUITE 1665 - UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON, KY 40506 (606) 257-4666

THE RISE

DEFENSE PUBLICATION OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF IRANIAN MOSLEM STUDENTS

P.O. BOX 401 WILLMETTE ILL. 60091

SPECIAL ISSUE

OCTOBER 12, 1978

DEFEND LEXINGTON 11

Introduction

The Lexington Court's decision to "sentence" 11 anti-CIA protesters 8 — Iranian students and three American sympathizers — to maximum charges is not only a fascistic measure in its own right, but it is also indicative of a deep CIA conspiracy. The Court, is trying its best, under direct pressure from the CIA, to exert maximum pressure on this group. By adopting highly repressive, and in fact, unprecedented measures, the Court and the Judge Paul B. Gudgel are bent on sparing no efforts in imposing their reactionary decisions on the 11. The atmosphere of the Court and the personal behavior and statements of the Judge himself are highly indicative of the hidden intentions behind the "trial" and its outcome. The crux of the whole issue is the pressure the CIA is trying to bear on eleven educated politically-

conscious persons whose only "Crime" is exposing this notorious organization and its activities, at least as regards Iran and the Iranian people.

Background To The Case:

A brief look into the case since the very beginning is illuminating. The case goes back to late April this year when Admiral Turner, the present CIA director, came to Lexington to deliver a speech at the University of Lexington. As part of our defense-exposing activities, and in response to our commitment to the Iranian people, our organization decided to expose the CIA's treacherous involvement in Iran and its direct role in the on-going repression against our people. Before Turner's speech started, our brothers and sisters distributed a



A scene from the O.I.M.'s hunger strike in front of Lexington Courthouse, Friday, October 6.

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pamphlet exposing the CIA's role in Iran and stood in back of the hall, holding up signs and posters.

The University's Dean, Burch, who wanted to have a quiet session for Turner, was obviously embarrassed at the sight of the Iranian students and their signs. He tried to stop our participation in the session under the pretext that our act was considered "demonstration and cause of disturbance". He threatened that unless we had left before speech started, he would call on the police to arrest our brothers and sisters. In the course of the Dean's unjustified and reactionary threats, several Americans raised their voices in our support and condemned his decision.

When his threats failed to force us out of the hall, he shamelessly called on the police. As a result, three of our brothers were arrested. Following these arrests, police arrested 3 Americans who supported our righteous cause and objected to this fascistic measure. Many Americans in the audience showed their support for the arrested by clapping and cheering.

After over half an hour delay, Turner started speaking. Several other Iranian students were arrested during his speech - for interrupting him. Later entry of many National Guardsmen and their stay for the rest of the session, in addition to the police heavy and tight guard around the building, clearly showed the repressive nature of the CIA and the University administration. This session which was supposed to whitewash the CIA of its crimes and gain support for it among Americans was thus exposed, especially by the Dean's resort to the police and their reactionary harsh treatment of Iranian students and their American sympathizers.

Local press and two TV channels covered this speech with all its concurrent ugly events which further exposed the CIA and the university's open cooperation with it. In spite of some reactionary attacks directed against the protesters in the campus newspaper, many articles and letters were later printed in our support. The arrested 11 anti-CIA protesters were later bailed out on bonds. Following the arrests, Immigration officers from Louisville, Kentucky came to Lexington to bear further pressure on the arrested Iranian students. On May 3rd, we held a demonstration in downtown Lexington to expose and condemn the CIA plot as well as the undue interference of the Immigration Office-playing its familiar and age-old part of harrassment.

Lexington Court's "trial" of the 11

The arrested 11 were then released temporarily to face "trial" in late September. The Lexington Court, during three days of Sept. 26-28, "tried" and "sentenced" this group to maximum charges. All the 11 were "sentenced" to pay \$250 fine, 5 to 90 days of imprisonment, 2 to 60 days and another 3 to 45 days. This fascistic decision clearly shows the CIA's conspiracy, to be implemented by the Court, to bear extreme pressure on progressive militant Iranians.

The depth of the CIA's plot is more revealed by the fact that the Prosecutor has told the defendants' attorney that if they plead guilty, they would only have to pay \$10 in cash and the Court's expenses. As the defendants do not consider

themselves guilty, the Court, under pressure from the CIA, decided to "sentence" them to maximum charges.

In this "trial", the Court tried to accuse them of causing disturbance in the hall. The defendants argued that, on the contrary, the case is one of police interference and rough handling of the arrested. The Court also tried to consider holding up of signs as an act of "demonstration", while the defendants argued that holding up signs in protest does not by any means mean demonstration.

Following this "trial", defendants appealed to a higher court to defend their innocence at the face of such repressive measures. The hearing before the court of appeal, clearly manifested the depth of the plot against the 11. Judge Gudgel enters the courtroom with two bodyguards! He then dismisses everybody from the courtroom except for the press people. Lexington Herald reported that he attended the Court in bullet-proof vest and declined commenting on why he wore this vest, when asked by this newspaper's correspondent!

This fascistic behaviour in the courtroom by Judge Gudgel and his statements later make it crystal clear for everybody that he is bent on imposing highly repressive measures on the defendants. While it is legally possible that the defendants's charges be dropped in the hearing, the Judge instead raises the bond from \$4,000 to \$15,000 per defendant. His reasoning being that Iranians are rich and can pay the bail! He has also added that he would not heed so many cables sent to him by different people and would disregard thousands of signatures of the people in support of the defendants. Moreover, while



Shah's troops use tear gas against Moslem demonstrators in Tehran.

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before the hearings defendants could pay 10% of the bond to bail out, he raises this ratio to 100%; i.e., every defendant must pay 15,000 dollars to leave prison.

These extremely reactionary measures by the Judge only indicate his determination, in the most dictatorial and repressive manner, to bear intolerable pressure on 11 educated progressive people. He is trying to impose maximum charge on these people because they have raised signs in a speech session and exposed the CIA. He is doing his best to put pressure on the 11, especially the Iranian students. What else does he need to do to prove that he is directly cooperating with the CIA, the U.S. government and the Shah's reactionary puppet regime?

The Court, CIA and the Shah's Regime

The Lexington Court's reactionary fascistic measures against the 11, specially 8 Iranian students, are obviously serving the interests of the U.S. government and the Shah's regime. In the courtroom, pictures have been taken from Iranian students with their signs. These pictures have been filed together with pictures taken at demonstrations. What other use can these files have but submission to the Shah's notorious secret police-SAVAK? Lexington Court is now acting as a local agency of the CIA and the U.S. imperialism, it is implementing the policies of the CIA. The U.S. establishment has always been trying, through its main intelligence agency-CIA-to harass and pressure the Iranian student movement. In complete coordination with such an age-old reactionary policy, Immigration Office has been pursuing a consistent policy of harassment and, in some cases, deportation of progressive militant Iranian students.

The CIA has since long been involved in the Iranian affairs. It was the CIA which overthrew the nationalist popular government of Dr. Mossadegh and brought the fugitive Shah back to throne in 1953. And it has been this same notorious agency, assisted by the U.S. direct military support, which has since kept the puppet Shah in power at the cost of massive bloodshed and systematic repression. The extent of the CIA's involvement in our internal affairs has much intensified in the past several years, and is now more critical to the Shah's embattled shaky regime more than ever before. And that is why it is now employing all means to exert pressure on our student movement in the U.S.

It is a fact that the CIA has close links with the University of Lexington, particularly through the Patterson School of Diplomacy. This department's Dean is said to be closely associated with Admiral Turner. The University Dean's threats and final resort to the police, then, is no surprise. Should there exist any other evidence to prove the direct cooperation between the university administration and the CIA, and the Court's unjust reactionary measures?

But why such unprecedented repressive measures at this juncture of time? The recent upsurge in the revolutionary struggle of the Iranian Moslem people against the Shah's U.S.-backed regime and consequent deep embarrassment of the U.S. imperialism can well explain this new CIA assault.

The Islamic Movement in Iran and the U.S. Imperialism

The Islamic movement of the Iranian Moslem people has upsurged recently and pressured the Shah's shaky repressive regime. The Iranian Moslem people are militantly fighting to overthrow this puppet dictatorial monarchical regime and establish their own revolutionary Islamic popular government. The U.S. imperialism which wholeheartedly supports the Shah's regime to preserve the status quo and secure its huge economic, political and military interests in Iran and the Persian Gulf area, is deeply concerned and embarrassed by the rise of this revolutionary struggle. Jimmy Carter's personal telephone call to the Shah on Sunday, Sept. 10th-two days after he had massacred over 5,000 innocent people on the streets of Tehran-to express the U.S. solid support for his bloody regime, well symbolizes such a deep fear.

As part of the extensive campaign by the U.S. government to boost support for the Shah among Americans and, in fact, to justify its treacherous involvement in Iran, the U.S. mass media are trying to portray the Shah as "progressive and modernizer" and the Islamic movement and Moslems as "backward and anti-modernization". While Moslems in Iran are fighting for the establishment of a just and democratic government, committed to the independence and freedom of Iran and restoration of human rights to the people-men and women equally - the U.S. mass media depict them as "anti-women and feudalistic"!!

The treacherous intentions behind such vicious distortive propaganda against the Islamic movement in Iran are crystal clear. The U.S. establishment is dead afraid of this unique revolutionary movement which aims at creating a truly independent popular government in Iran. A cursory look through the U.S. press and news media manifestly shows such a fear and reflects the U.S. imperialism's reactionary determination to stand by the Shah's bloody regime. And in fact, they are doing all at their disposal to keep the Shah in power and secure their immense interests. The U.S. well-placed sources even indicate the possibility of the U.S. direct military involvement in Iran to save the Shah's throne, should the urgent need arise. Stationing of the CIA Middle Eastern headquarters in the capital city (Tehran), since 1973, and presence of 40,000 to 60,000 American military advisors, mainly Vietnam war veterans, in Iran, which are already directly involved in the Shah's repression in Iran are potential occupation forces and military involvement.

The 11: political prisoners, not criminals

The case of the 11 is a political case. They have been "tried" and "sentenced" merely because of their peaceful protest against the CIA and its involvement in Iran. Thus,

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Moslem demonstrators carrying coffin of a martyr during one of the recent demonstrations in Tehran.

they are political prisoners whose human rights are severely violated. The University administration, the Lexington Court and the Immigration Office are as well directly cooperating with the CIA to exert pressure on the Iranian students.

They are all engaged in a dirty conspiracy against the Iranian student movement; the objective is to liquidate it. The case of the 11 is not a single separate case, it only reflects the consistent policy of the CIA and its local agencies and law enforcement offices to harrass our student movement. The case of the 11 is handled in such a way as to intimidate any opposition anywhere in the future.

The CIA's plot at liquidating student movements in the U.S. is not without precedent. This is the same age-old notorious policy against the anti-war activists in the 1960's. These same repressive measures were then employed against those who dared to oppose the U.S. unjustifiable reactionary aggression in Vietnam. Now it is well clear to everybody that those harrassed and imprisoned progressive elements were quite right in their opposition to the U.S. policy in Vietnam and the CIA's dirty tricks against the oppressed Vietnamese people.

The Lexington 11 are fighting for a just cause; they are trying to prove their innocence at the face of a well-planned - organized conspiracy. The defendants are now on a hunger-strike in the prison. They need everybody's support of any kind. Raise your voices in support of the Lexington 11 and against this CIA-directed conspiracy.

DEMANDS:

- DROP THE \$130,000 BAIL!
- RELEASE THE 10!
- DROP THE JAIL TERMS AND FINES!
- NO DEPORTATIONS OF IRANIAN STUDENTS!

SEND PROTEST LETTERS, TELEGRAMS AND CALLS:

- JUDGE GUDGEL
DISTRICT JUDGES' OFFICES
LIMESTONE BLDG.
LEXINGTON, KY. 40507
(606) 255-8781
- GOVERNOR JULIAN CARROLL
STATE CAPITOL BLDG.
FRANKFORT, KY. 40601
(502) 564-2611
- OTIS SINGLETARY
ADMINISTRATION BLDG.
UNIV. OF KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON, KY. 40506
(606) 257-1701

SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO: LEXINGTON-11
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